From: HR Daily Advisor
To: Durkan, Terence (SHF)
Subject: The First Amendment and Burping
Date: Wednesday, July 18, 2018 7:33:06 AM

HR Daily Advisor

The First Amendment and Burping

At the beginning of one episode of The Simpsons, Bart is seen writing “The First Amendment does not cover burping” on the blackboard. Although the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution states that “Congress shall make no law abridging” freedom of speech, more than two centuries of practical application have taught us that even the word “no” has limitations. As anyone who has taken an undergraduate communications law course can tell you, given our society's interest in maintaining order and protecting life, the First Amendment doesn't allow someone to yell “Fire!” in a crowded movie theater. And teachers have certain authority to control their classrooms, even if that limits Bart's right to belch.

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